Q. Can we avoid using quadratic space?

Easy. Optimal value in O(m + n) space and O(mn) time.

- Compute OPT(i, ·) from OPT(i-1, ·).
- No longer a simple way to recover alignment itself.

Theorem. [Hirschberg 1975] Optimal alignment in O(m + n) space and O(mn) time.

- Clever combination of divide-and-conquer and dynamic programming.
- Inspired by idea of Savitch from complexity theory.

- Let f(i, j) be shortest path from (0,0) to (i, j).
- Observation: f(i, j) = OPT(i, j).



- Let f(i, j) be shortest path from (0,0) to (i, j).
- Can compute $f(\cdot, j)$ for any j in O(mn) time and O(m + n) space.



- Let g(i, j) be shortest path from (i, j) to (m, n).
- Can compute by reversing the edge orientations and inverting the roles of (0, 0) and (m, n)



- Let g(i, j) be shortest path from (i, j) to (m, n).
- Can compute $g(\cdot, j)$ for any j in O(mn) time and O(m + n) space.



Observation 1. The cost of the shortest path that uses (i, j) is f(i, j) + g(i, j).



Observation 2. let q be an index that minimizes f(q, n/2) + g(q, n/2). Then, the shortest path from (0, 0) to (m, n) uses (q, n/2).



Divide: find index q that minimizes f(q, n/2) + g(q, n/2) using DP.

• Align x_q and $y_{n/2}$.

Conquer: recursively compute optimal alignment in each piece.



n / 2

Sequence Alignment: Running Time Analysis Warmup

Theorem. Let $T(m, n) = \max running time of algorithm on strings of length at most m and n. <math>T(m, n) = O(mn \log n)$.

 $T(m,n) \leq 2T(m, n/2) + O(mn) \implies T(m,n) = O(mn \log n)$

Remark. Analysis is not tight because two sub-problems are of size (q, n/2) and (m - q, n/2). In next slide, we save log n factor.

Sequence Alignment: Running Time Analysis

Theorem. Let T(m, n) = max running time of algorithm on strings of length m and n. T(m, n) = O(mn).

Pf. (by induction on n)

- O(mn) time to compute $f(\cdot, n/2)$ and $g(\cdot, n/2)$ and find index q.
- T(q, n/2) + T(m q, n/2) time for two recursive calls.
- Choose constant c so that:

- Base cases: m = 2 or n = 2.
- Inductive hypothesis: $T(m, n) \leq 2cmn$.

$$T(m,n) \leq T(q,n/2) + T(m-q,n/2) + cmn$$

$$\leq 2cqn/2 + 2c(m-q)n/2 + cmn$$

$$= cqn + cmn - cqn + cmn$$

$$= 2cmn$$